

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to J.A.D. McCurdy, November 17, 1908

Beinn Bhreagh , near Baddeck , Nova Scotia . November 17, 1908. Mr. J. A. D. McCurdy, Hammondsport, N. Y. Dear Douglas:

At last, at last, at last! We have a description of the Silver Dart with illustrations that we can put in the Bulletin. Your whole material arrived last night and I immediately sent John down to the Bungalow for Casey and we read through the whole thing carefully. We will make a special Bulletin of it. I received by the same mail three copies of the proposed specification for a patent, from Mauro, Cameron, Lewis & Massie. I sent one to Curtiss which, of course, you can see. Let us have your views about it as soon as possible.

We have been anxiously waiting word concerning the first experiments with the Silver Dart and the Loon and fear that your silence means that the engine is giving trouble.

Casey has not yet advanced further with his hydroplane surfaces. He has made a great many experiments but has not yet been able to advance his speed. He has recently tried a new propeller with four blades with very promising results. He tried it on the D. B. without any hydroplanes at all and obtained a speed of 18.5 miles per hour.

I do hope you will soon be able to try your Hammondsport machine and come up here. We need you badly and want to see you. We should all of us be together and discuss the claims of the proposed patent.

Yours sincerely, Alexander Graham Bell